

# After Cityhall



A Publication of the Wichita Employees' Retirement System

June 2002 Vol. 8, No. 1

## New Retirees

Retiree	Department	Date
Virginia A. Barnett	Health	2/02
Kenneth A. Beadles	General Government	6/02
Patricia L. Bolte	Airport	1/02
Lena Breckenridge	Health	1/02
James C. Cranford	General Government	12/01
Gladys Cunningham	Housing	4/02
Robert D. Johnston	Park	2/02
Jerold Liebst	Park	5/02
Sandra L. Moore	Health	2/02
Arthur R. Prosser	Park	4/02
Gene A. Rath	Public Works	1/02
Paul Rivera	Water & Sewer	3/02
Claudia L. Roach	Police	4/02
Rodney A. Ryel	Airport	6/02
Robert L. Vickers	Public Works	4/02
Sharon K. Weakly	Finance	1/02

## In Memoriam

Retiree	Department	Date
Wilma M. Auer	Pub. Works (widow of John)	1/02
Thelma Barstow	Community Facilities	3/02
Marjory Brooner	Health (widow of Norris)	1/02
Ronald E. Brown	Water & Sewer	11/01
Nancy C. Browning	Fire	3/02
Katherine A. Cantrell	Finance	3/02
Fay Dannenfelser	Water (widow of Harold)	11/01
Ralph C. Eberly	Finance	4/02
Jane R. Ellet	Library	5/02
Robert G. Finch	City Manager	1/02
Louise Garcia	Health	3/02
Darrell D. Gilchrist	Public Works	1/02
Alma J. Gilley	Art Museum	4/02
Maxine M. Hays	Police	4/02
Mary M. Hopkins	Park (widow of Harold)	5/02
Arthur G. Johnson, Jr.	Law	1/02
Virginia L. Jones	Com. Fac. (widow of Ivan)	12/01
Erma O. Kimball	Public Works (widow of Ira)	11/01
Grace E. Lauchland	Finance (widow of Drue)	4/02
Bertie M. Layman	Pub. Works (widow of Wylie)	3/02
Essie L. Leonard	Water (widow of James)	2/02
Virginia E. Loepp	Gen. Govt. (widow of Bill)	3/02
Lucille E. McDonald	Police (widow of Albert)	2/02
June McMichael	Health	2/02
Mildred Newlin-Meyer	Library	1/02
Myong M. Ogburn	Airport (widow of Robert)	2/02
Alfred L. Parks Sr.	General Government	4/02
Helen J. Patterson	Municipal Court	5/02
Violet M. Poor	General Government	1/02
Alice M. Seaman	Community Development	3/02

## Of Interest

### What Happened to My Pension Check?

After years of pension checks being delivered on time, many of the May checks were not received by the 1<sup>st</sup> (or the 2<sup>nd</sup> or the 3<sup>rd</sup>...).

The process of finding the checks began. Our custodial bank, The Northern Trust Company, confirmed that the checks had been processed and mailed as scheduled; and immediately began looking for the delinquent checks. They reported that after being mailed from Chicago, the checks were routed through a post office distribution center where problems had been reported.

After five business days, Staff began issuing stop payments for the original checks and re-issuing new checks. As luck would have it, many of the original checks (with a stopped payment) were received prior to the re-issued check.

The Pension Office Staff offers a heartfelt "thank you" to our pensioners for their patience and understanding during this difficult time. While we hope this never happens again, *the only assurance we can offer is that the checks will continue to be mailed on time.*

### The Solution – Direct (Electronic) Deposit

Approximately 76% of City retirees currently have their monthly benefit checks electronically deposited directly into their bank accounts. This service is free, secure, reliable, and convenient. You do not have to worry about lost, stolen, or damaged checks, having your check deposited when you are out of town or unable to get to your bank. Direct deposit ensures that your check is deposited on time, even if there is a disruption of postal service.

To sign up for Direct Deposit, return the form with your check stub or call the Pension Office.

### State Income Tax – To Remember

Your City of Wichita pension benefit may be subject to **federal** income tax. However, if you live in Kansas, you do NOT pay **state** income tax on your benefit. This state tax exemption is specifically addressed in Kansas Statutes Annotated. If you have been paying Kansas Income Tax on your pension benefit, you may be able to file an amended return. Please be sure your tax preparer is familiar with K.S.A. 74-4923(b) and K.S.A. 74-4901, et. seq.

If you live outside of Kansas, check with your state to determine if your pension benefit is taxed in that state.

### ***In Memoriam (cont.)***

Retiree	Department	Date
LaRue Slicker	Public Works	5/02
Arthur Socha	Water & Sewer	12/01
Bill Standrich	Human Services	3/02
Marjorie Stenholm	General Government	11/01
Billie J. Taylor	Police	5/02
Catherine Tompkins	Park	2/02
Robert E. Woodhead	Water & Sewer	2/02

### ***Pension Manager Retiring***

After more than 31 years of service, Bob Lancaster will be joining the ranks of retirees on October 18, 2002. Bob began his career with the City of Wichita in the Health Department. After eighteen years, he transferred to the Finance Department's Budget Office where he worked as a Senior Budget Analyst for six years. In 1995, he came to the Pension Management Office as Assistant Pension Manager, and was promoted to Pension Manager in 1999.

Over the past seven years in the Pension Management Office, Bob has helped provide the leadership to bring about major changes to enhance retirement benefits available to employees and retirees. During his tenure, the maximum benefit for Plan 2 was increased to 75% and a post-retirement adjustment was added, as were benefits for minor children in the case of vested employee or retiree death. Additionally, the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) was implemented to encourage long-time experienced employees to continue their careers with the City.

Pension Staff will sorely miss Bob's leadership, knowledge, wit, and involvement with all areas of responsibilities. His will be large shoes to fill.

### ***Take a New Look at Your Pension Check***

Whether you receive an actual check or a "Non Negotiable" deposit advice (direct deposit), there are useful forms attached:

- Federal Tax Election Form (for making changes to your federal income tax deduction)
- KS State Tax Election Form (changes to Kansas Income Tax deduction)
- Electronic Deposit Authorization Form (to begin direct deposit of your check)
- Address Change Form

Use these forms when requesting a change of income tax withholding, a change of mailing address and phone number, or to begin direct deposit of your check.

**The forms provide your written authorization for changes to your account and permanent file.**

Mail or bring the completed forms to:

Pension Management  
City Hall, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
455 N. Main  
Wichita, KS 67202

### ***Pension Management Staff 316-268-4544***

Robert L. Lancaster Pension Manager  
[lancaster\\_b@ci.wichita.ks.us](mailto:lancaster_b@ci.wichita.ks.us)

Toni Wenger Assistant Pension Manager  
[wenger\\_t@ci.wichita.ks.us](mailto:wenger_t@ci.wichita.ks.us)

Paula Dillon Administrative Aide III  
[dillon\\_p@ci.wichita.ks.us](mailto:dillon_p@ci.wichita.ks.us)

Michelle Patton Secretary  
[patton\\_m@ci.wichita.ks.us](mailto:patton_m@ci.wichita.ks.us)

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Pension Management  
City Hall, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
455 N. Main  
Wichita, KS 67202